

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/052059

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06K9/50

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06K G06T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 155 072 A (KAWA RYUICHI) 15 May 1979 (1979-05-15) abstract; figures 2,4,8 column 3, line 49 – column 4, line 50 ----- US 6 320 984 B1 (SHIGETA NORIMASA) 20 November 2001 (2001-11-20) abstract; claim 1; figure 3 ----- MARSHALL S: "Review of shape coding techniques" IMAGE AND VISION COMPUTING, UK, vol. 7, no. 4, November 1989 (1989-11), pages 281-294, XP002272602 ISSN: 0262-8856 the whole document -----	1,7,12, 13
A		1-13
A		1-13

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

2 December 2004

28/12/2004

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PCT/IB2004/052059

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